

**AMENDMENT TO H.R. 2419, AS REPORTED**  
**OFFERED BY MR. HALL OF NEW YORK**

At the end of subtitle C of title II, add the following  
new section:

**1 SEC. 2303. MUCK SOILS CONSERVATION.**

2 (a) ESTABLISHMENT OF PROGRAM.—The Secretary  
3 of Agriculture shall carry out a conservation program  
4 under which the Secretary makes payments to assist own-  
5 ers and operators of eligible land specified in subsection  
6 (b) to conserve and improve the soil, water, and wildlife  
7 resources of such land.

8 (b) ELIGIBLE LAND.—To be eligible for inclusion in  
9 the program established under this section, the land  
10 must—

11 (1) be comprised of soil that qualifies as muck,  
12 as determined by the Secretary;

13 (2) be used for production of an agricultural  
14 crop;

15 (3) have a spring cover crop planted in conjunc-  
16 tion with the primary agricultural crop referred to in  
17 paragraph (2);

18 (4) have a winter crop planted; and

1           (5) have ditch banks seeded with grass that is  
2           maintained on a year-round basis.

3           (c) PAYMENT AMOUNTS.—The Secretary may pro-  
4           vide payments of not less than \$300, but not more than  
5           \$500, per acre per year under the program.

6           (d) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There  
7           are authorized to be appropriated to the Secretary to carry  
8           out the program \$50,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2008  
9           through 2012.